

USAF instructors focus on military history during battlefield tour

Detachment 1, 361st TS

During the post-9-11 era, it's easy to focus on today's challenges, missions, and tools of combat while training young Soldiers, Airmen, and Marines, and fighting the Global War on Terror. However, it's important to recognize the nation's military heritage and study the important principles taught by its predecessors – principles applicable even in today's vastly different arena.

The U.S. Air Force Detachment at APG put this into action by traveling with Dr. William Atwater, director of the Ordnance Museum and frequent contributor to the History Channel studies of military history, to Gettysburg National Military Park in Gettysburg, Pa., Oct. 6. There, they studied principles demonstrated during the July 1 through 3, 1863 battle and learned a great deal about the key characters involved.

Atwater led the group to a series of locations crucial to the battle, and outlined the events and the military principles involved.

The group conducted what Atwater referred to as a "staff ride," walking the ground of each encounter and seeing the terrain and challenges at each location, including climbs to observation towers.

The Air Force members were fascinated by Atwater's descriptions of the merits and personalities of the key Union and Confederate participants – including his great-great-grandfather, who participated in Confederate General George Pickett's

famous charge that reached into the Union lines at the battle's climax.

Master Sgt. Patrick O'Keefe, Aircraft Metals Technology Course superintendent and an avid student of military history, described the tour as "unforgettable."

"Dr. Atwater brought those days to life like no one else has," O'Keefe said. "We were able to get into the minds of the key leaders, and their troops, and understand what life was like."

William Fuentes, Metals Technology instructor and participant in historical reenactment events, agreed.

"I got a much better understanding of what happened on those three hot, smoky days," Fuentes said.

The group also learned about the ordnance used during the battle, including the Napoleon, Parrott, and Whitworth cannon used on both sides, and the military traditions established on both sides.

The tour was arranged by Maj. Steven Pratt, detachment commander and a student of history.

"Our staff will remember what they learned today as they do their mission, and apply the lessons they learned for the rest of their

careers," Pratt said.

Atwater has conducted similar tours of the battlefield for students at the Army War College and the Ordnance Officers' Basic Course. This was the second of three such tours within two weeks. He has conducted tours for students at the Canadian Military Academy recently, and the U.S. Marine Detachment at APG.



Photo by MASTER SGT PATRICK O'KEEFE
Dr. Jack Atwater, director of the Ordnance Museum, describes the violent events of July 2, 1863, to members of the Air Force Detachment Oct. 6 as they look westward from Little Round Top toward the Devil's Den at Gettysburg National Military Park, Pa. Union troops hastily rushed to this point, led by Col. Joshua Chamberlain of Maine, and narrowly turned back Confederate advances on the second day of the famous Civil War battle.

Chapel services

Religious events

The Religious Education staff in the Aberdeen Proving Ground military community offers a wide variety of religious opportunities for all denominations and for all ages and groups of people such as scripture classes, adult education programs, youth ministry, children's programs, family spirituality, retreats and many programs of specific needs and concerns.

Volunteers from the chapel congregations service as teachers and assistants for all ages, adult facilitators, youth leaders and resource people. Chaplains, chaplain assistants and the director of Religious Education serve as religious resource persons and trainers.

GOSPEL

Sunday – 11 a.m. to noon

Sunday School for children ages pre-school through high school at Main Post Chapel.

Wednesday, 7 p.m. at Main Post Chapel
Adult Bible Study – Child care provided.

Children's Church – 2nd and 4th Sunday at 12:30 p.m. in Classroom 4, Main Post Chapel

For more information, call Clarence Weaver, 410-272-6583 or Gerri Merkel, APG DRE 410-278-2516

PROTESTANT

Sunday – 4:30 to 6 p.m. at Main Post Chapel

"AWANA" Program for children ages pre-school through high school

For more information, call Chap. (Maj.) Jeff Watters, 410-278-4333

CATHOLIC

Sunday – 10 to 11 a.m., Aberdeen

Religious education classes for children ages pre-school through grade 8 meet at Main Post Chapel. Classes include preparation for Confirmation (grades 8 and above)

For more information, call Gerri Merkel, APG DRE, 410-278-2516.

Sunday – 9:15 to 10:30 a.m., Edgewood

Religious Education classes for children ages pre-school through grade 8.

For more information, call Karen Henrichs, 410-671-7785 or Gerri Merkel, APG DRE, 410-278-2516

Catholic Youth of the Chapel (grades 6-12)

All Catholic youth are invited to participate in the youth ministry program once a month which includes good food, fun and fellowship, spiritual retreats, religious excursions, service activities and more. For more information, contact Bernadette Kovalsik, 410-322-5206 or Cathy Day, 410-937-2617.

Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC)

All Catholic Women of the Chapel in the APG are invited to meet every Monday night from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Main Post Chapel. For more information, call Gerri Merkel, APG DRE, 410-278-2516 or 410-688-8422 (cell).

Wearing the 'Red Badge of Courage'

ASAP

Red Ribbon week, Oct. 24 through 29, is a time when people can take a visible stand against drugs and show their personal commitment to a drug-free life style through the symbol of the Red Ribbon.

LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OFP 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)	William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Dianna Blevins	Sandra Miller
Leroy Carter	Mary Pettiway
Barbara Cascio	Donna Puckett
Steven Clarke	Tess Ramos (total hip replacement)
Barbara Crossley	Boyd Richards
Carl Davis	Cheryl L. Roark
Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)	James Royston
Geraldine Eaton	Leigh Sanders
Renee Gaffney	Barbara Seker
Susan Gorhan	Steven Sheely
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)	Linda Shoaf
Richard Hoffman	Alison Tichenor
Patricia Lynch	Linda Tigner
Wayne Kaiser	Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)
Beverly King (caring for husband)	Gary Tudor (heart valve replacement)
Danny Kopp (lung cancer)	Jerry Williams
	Gerard Yursis

of drug traffickers in Mexico. Friends and neighbors wore red 'badges' of satin in his honor to show they would continue his fight against illegal drugs.

This tradition is carried on through the Red Ribbon Campaign. Red ribbons can be picked up at the APG Army Substance Abuse Program office, building 2477.

The ASAP staff works with communities and families to present a unified and visible commitment toward the creation of a drug-free America.

A Drug-Free Fun Run for children of all ages was held Oct. 15. All children had an opportunity to sign a banner, pledging their commitment to leading a drug-free life. The banner was located at the APG Fire Station and was signed by over 60 children.

The ASAP partners with the military and civilian communities to show their support by promoting drug-free families, children, and communities in Harford County.

"The ASAP staff are available to conduct prevention activities in schools supporting the APG family," said Jareta Coyle, ASAP alcohol and drug control officer. "For instance, two of our staff will be going to Edgewood Elementary to present prevention videos and handout prevention materials Oct. 27." Parents wanting to include their children's school in these activities are advised to first, coordinate with the school, and then contact the ASAP office, 410-278-DRUG.

Military Mail Addressed to:	Express Mail Military Service (EMMS) ^{1/}	First-Class Mail® Letters/Cards	Priority Mail®	Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL) ^{2/}	Space Available Mail (SAM) ^{3/}	Parcel Post®
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec 19	Dec 10	Dec 10	Dec 3	Nov 26	Nov 12
APO/FPO AE ZIP 093	N/A	Dec 5	Dec 5	Dec 3	Nov 26	Nov 12
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 094-098	Dec 19	Dec 10	Dec 10	Dec 3	Nov 26	Nov 12
APO/FPO AA ZIPs 340	Dec 19	Dec 10	Dec 10	Dec 3	Nov 26	Nov 12
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec 19	Dec 10	Dec 10	Dec 3	Nov 26	Nov 12

1/ EMMS: Express Mail Military Service is available to selected military post offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to your APO/FPO of address.

2/ PAL: A special service that provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. PAL is available for Parcel Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid, in addition to the regular surface rate of postage for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

3/ SAM: Parcels paid at Parcel Post postage rates are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis. The maximum weight and size limits are 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined.

4/ GXG: Global Express Guaranteed is available to more than 200 countries via a partnership with Federal Express. See a retail associate at participating locations for a complete list of countries and money-back guarantee details or visit <http://www.usps.com/global/globalexpressguaranteed.htm>. Some restrictions apply.

5/ GEM: Global Express Mail is available to most countries with delivery in 3 to 5 business days. See a retail associate at participating locations for a complete list of countries or visit <http://www.usps.com/global/globalexpressmail.htm>. Some restrictions apply.

6/ GPM: Global Priority Mail is an accelerated airmail service available for items up to 4 pounds to 51 countries. The service is available in two attractive sized envelopes. Customers can also use their own packaging by adding the Global Priority Mail sticker. See a retail associate at participating locations for a complete list of countries or visit <http://www.usps.com/global/globalpriority-mail.htm>. Some restrictions apply.

International Mail Addressed to:	Global Express Guaranteed® (GXG) ^{4/}	Global Express Mail® (GEM) ^{5/}	Global Priority Mail® (GPM) ^{6/}	Global Airmail® Letters and Cards	Global Airmail Parcel Post	Global Economy (Surface)
Africa	Dec 19	Dec 10	Dec 7	Dec 5	Dec 5	Oct 14
Asia / Pacific Rim	Dec 19	Dec 16	Dec 14	Dec 12	Dec 12	Oct 28
Australia / New Zealand	Dec 19	Dec 16	Dec 14	Dec 12	Dec 12	Oct 28
Canada	Dec 20	Dec 17	Dec 14	Dec 12	Dec 12	Nov 18
Caribbean	Dec 19	Dec 16	Dec 14	Dec 12	Dec 12	Nov 4
Central & South America	Dec 19	Dec 10	Dec 5	Dec 5	Dec 5	Oct 28
Mexico	Dec 19	Dec 16	Dec 14	Dec 12	Dec 12	Nov 4
Europe	Dec 19	Dec 16	Dec 14	Dec 12	Dec 9	Nov 4
Middle East	Dec 19	Dec 16	Dec 14	Dec 12	Dec 12	Oct 21